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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/917,035	07/27/2001	Thomas Falone		6238

3624 7590 02/24/2003

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EXAMINER

BLAU, STEPHEN LUTHER

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3711

DATE MAILED: 02/24/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

Suspended Action

1. The action of this application has been suspended in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.176 and 1.177 (MPEP articles 1450 and 1451) since no changes in this application 09/917,035 have been made to correct an error in the original patent 5,944,617 and remaining reissue applications exists (10/135,682). Should prosecution of all reissues of original patent 5,944,617 result in no changes to claims allowable, the necessity of a reissue under 35 U.S.C. 251 will be evaluated because in this instant case (09/917,035) there appears to be no cure for an error since no claims have been amended or added and the subject matter entered into the specification was already present by the incorporation by reference to the parent patent 5,653,643 (08/560,699) (Col. 2, Lns. 28-33). The examiner will reinitiate action on this case once all issues are resolved in the remaining reissue applications.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows: In column 1 line 6 before the words "This application is a continuation in part" the sentence - More than one reissue
application has been filed for the reissue of Patent No. 5,944,617. The reissue
B1 applications are application numbers 09/917,035 and 10/135,682, all of which are
divisional reissues of Patent No. 5,944,617. - has been added.

The amendment has been made in accordance with MPEP article 1451.

Reissue Applications

3. The original patent 5,944,617 has been received.

Response to Amendment

4. The amendment dated 30 April 2002 stands objected to because of the following informalities: It contains reference numbers "132" and "134" in lines 4-5 in the second paragraph inserted after line 27 of column 5 of which no longer exist in the drawings with the cancellation of figure 20. On the issuance of this application the examiner will delete these reference numbers by an examiner's amendment as has been previously discussed with the applicants representative. These added reference numbers are surplusage previously added to provide support to an added drawing (Fig. 20) and added claims (28-34) both of which have been canceled. As such no additional declaration is necessitated by this change.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steve Blau whose telephone number is (703) 308-2712. The examiner is available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.. If the examiner is unavailable you can contact his supervisor Paul Sewell whose telephone number is (703) 308-2126. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0858.

Slb 20 February 2003


STEPHEN BLAU
PRIMARY EXAMINER